Circular Letter #40

October 5, 1922.

TO ALL SCHOOL SUPERVISORS

Gentlemen:

My attention has been called repeatedly to the practice of soliciting contribution from teachers and pupils for different purposes; and while I personally believe that the practice of giving by the school children is good in principle, because it tends to develop the habit of helping, thus contributing to the moral education of the child, I do not approve of any other way of soliciting such help except in a voluntary manner.

I do not believe the reports that from time to time reach me, that in exacting contribution, the teachers are sometimes given to understand that their denial would bring poor classification by the supervisor, and that the children who will not be promoted to the next grade by the teachers, if the money is not forthcoming. But anyway, I desire to repeat in a most emphatic manner that any contribution asked for in the schools must be entirely voluntary, and he who can and wishes to give, must do it only of his own free will and without coertion of any king.

Respectfully,

Juan B. Huyke,

Commissioner of Education.